

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to Notice No. below US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. LRP 2017- 376

Date: November 15, 2017

Notice No. 17-57

Closing Date: December 15, 2017

r1. <u>TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</u>: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899

2. APPLICANT:

Coresco, LLC

103 Corporate Drive, Suite 102 Morgantown, WV 26501-4582

- 3. <u>LOCATION</u>: The proposed Barge Off-loading Facility will be located on the left descending bank of the Monongahela River at approximate Mile Marker 94.8. The site will be located approximately 1.7 miles southeast of the community of Maidsville, Monongalia County, West Virginia.
- 4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to construct a new "barge off-loading facility" on the left descending bank of the Monongahela River. This facility will be located approximately 170 feet upstream of the existing barge 'loadout" facility. Four (4) six foot diameter support shafts will be placed below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of the river. The "deck" of the facility will extend approximately 34.0 feet riverward of the OHWM. This facility will be used to unload coal barges, Drawings of the proposed dock are attached to this notice.
- 5. WEST VIRGINIA CERTIFICATION: This permit decision will not be made until the State of West Virginia, Division of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), issues, denies, or waives State Certification. This public notice does not serve as application to the WVDEP for certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. An individual 401 water quality certification (WQC) may be required for this proposed activity in conjunction with the Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act permit and/or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act permit. The applicant must apply directly to the WVDEP for an individual 401 WQC. The WVDEP will also consider whether or not the proposed activity will comply with sections 301, 302, 303, 306, 307 of the Clean Water Act or any other appropriate State laws. Please contact the below to determine if an individual 401 WQC is required for this proposed activity:

Ms. Wilma Reip, 401 Program Manager

Phone: 304-962-0499 ext. 1599 E-mail: Wilma.reip@wv.gov

- 6. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on endangered species or threatened species, or result in destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. While concurrence with this determination is not required, this Public Notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).
- 7. <u>IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).
- 8. <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.
- EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the

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overall public interest of the proposed activity.

10. <u>RESPONSES</u>: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination, comments can be mailed to:

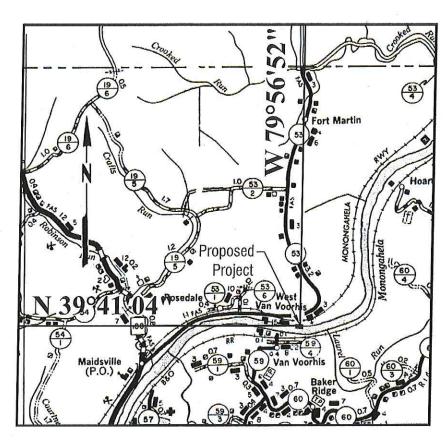
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186 Re: Public Notice CELRP-OP-F No. 17-57

Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn. Greg Currey at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7181 or by e-mail at Gregory.e.currey@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2017-376 in all responses.

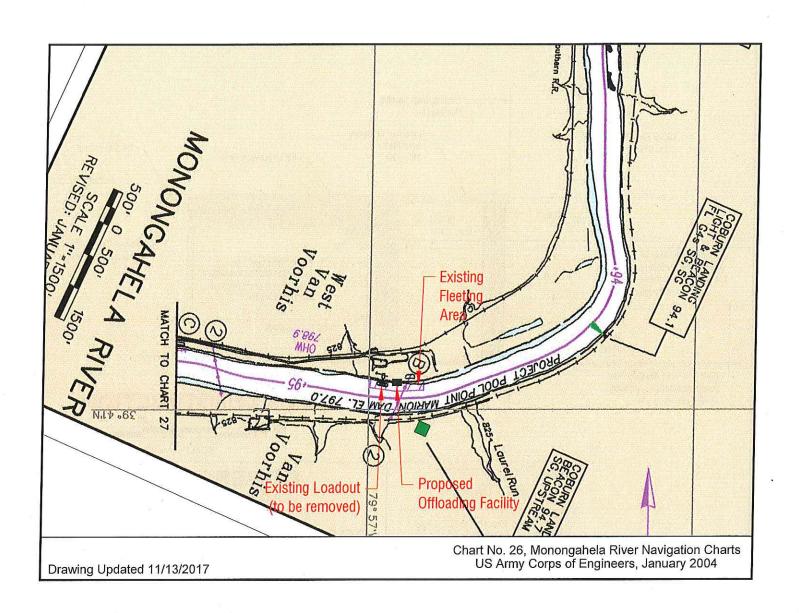
FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

Jon T. Coleman

Chief, Southern Section Regulatory Branch



Location Map
Cass District
Monongalia County, West Virginia
Scale: 1" = 1 Mile



Re:

Coresco, LLC

Maidsville Barge Off-Loading Facility

LRP 2017-376

Greg:

Here are the responses to your comment letter dated November 01, 2017

1) Please provide an adjoining property owners list with names and addresses.

Dist.	Мар	Parcel	Owner	Address
3/Cass	14	A-5	West Virginia Department of	I-79 & Meadowbrook Road Clarksburg, WV 26302-
3/Cass	14	35, 37	Transportation, District 4 Monongalia County Development Authority	2570 955 Hartman Run Rd, Morgantown, WV 26505
3/Cass	14	26.2	Mepco, LLC	103 Corporate Drive, Suite 102 Morgantown, WV 26501

2) Please provide a more detailed description of the proposed facility and the "Purpose and Need" of this facility.

The purpose of this project is to modify Mepco, LLC's existing Coresco dock on the Monongahela River from a barge load out to a barge off-loading facility, in effect reversing the facility's current approved throughput. The need for this change is as follows:

In December 2017, Mepco, LLC's contracts for coal sales will cease and Mepco will no longer be selling coal to outside coal buyers. The sole user of coal mined by Mepco (and its subsidiaries) will be the Longview Power Plant. This plant is one of the newest, most efficient and cleanest coal-fired power plants in the United States using state-of-the-art clean coal technology to reliably produce low-cost electrical power¹. By modifying the dock to off-load barges, Mepco will gain the capability to supplement their current coal production with purchased coal. This will mitigate any production shortfalls at Mepco's mining facilities as well as provide a redundant coal supply for the Longview Power Plant.

The Longview Plant is located approximately 2.2 mile (driving distance) from the Coresco dock. Utilizing the proposed dock off-loading capability will minimize public exposure to coal truck traffic that might otherwise be a result of bringing market coal to the plant.

¹ https://longviewpower.com/

Since Mepco is no longer going to be selling coal on the general market, the structures used to load barges at the dock are proposed to be removed.

3) Indicate the distance from the OHWM to the riverward edge of the platform on the Plan View.

The distance from the OHWM to the riverward edge of the platform has been indicated on Plan View. A revised 8.5x11 pdf drawing is attached with this email.

4) Describe the depth of river bottom material that will have to be dredged to construct this facility. Can you also indicate this depth on the Cross-Section?

The river bottom will be excavated to a depth of approximately 16 feet below normal pool in the area surrounding the proposed dock. This has been added to the Profile (section) Drawing. A revised 8.5x11 pdf drawing is attached with this email

